

DATA RETRIEVAL DEVICE

## ABSTRACT

5           A data retrieval device capable of attaining a low  
power consumption while utilizing high speed retrieving  
characteristics of a CAM, wherein a plurality of rule  
data with determined priority is newly arranged in an  
order of the size and assigned to memory blocks in  
10 accordance with the order, information on the assigned  
data range is stored in a register, the rule data is  
rearranged again in the priority order in each memory  
block, a range comparator compares input retrieval data  
with a content held in the register and a memory block to  
15 be retrieved is specified by the result, and a block  
controller activates only the specified block at the time  
of retrieving and not activating other blocks, so that a  
power consumption at the tem of retrieving is reduced for  
that amount.